

ABSTRACT

A magnetic article is formed from a magnetic fabric that is formed using individual magnetic fibers and is preferably held in its desired shape with stitches. The magnetic article can be used for therapeutic purposes by weaving the magnetic fibers into the magnetic fabric maintaining the magnetic article in close proximity to the user to improve its therapeutic efficacy. The magnetic fibers are preferably sheath-core fibers with a magnetic core and may alternatively be composite fibers with magnetic particles encapsulated in a polymer, giving the magnetic fabric an aesthetically pleasing drape and a tactile handle. The magnetic fibers can be made from slit films suitable for textile processing and additional processing can be used to magnetize the individual fibers. The magnetic fibers can be woven in patterns, and additional layers of magnetic material can be formed on or incorporated into the magnetic fabric using known processes for textiles. Solid magnets can also be added to the magnetic fabric.